

Wiltshire Squash Rackets Association
Minutes of the AGM – Tuesday 30th April 2013
Held at the Wellington Arms, Marlborough – 7:30p.m.

Present: Mike Stannard (Chairman)
Howard Wilson (Secretary)
Clive Morgan (Treasurer)
Neil Marshman (Summer League Sec.)
Peter Goldson (Marking/Refereeing)

Club Reps: Brian Brock (Oasis)
Ed Crane (Wessex)
John Pierce (Cricklade)

Apologies: Derek Bray (Winter League Sec.)
Dean Watkins
Rich Elsdon
Mike Hyland
Matt Baker

Previous AGM Minutes

Acceptance of last year's minutes was proposed by NM and seconded by PG.

Presentation/Adoption of Accounts

CM distributed copies of the Treasurers Report and accounts (see separate document).

MS asked about the court costs for the county tournaments and CM replied that South Marston costs around £150 for a weekend and Marlborough College (not the squash club) charge something similar. On the basis that a number of events have been held at the Wessex over recent years without charge, MS suggested that a donation should be made to the club. PG proposed £100 and this was agreed by the meeting. HW thanked the meeting on behalf of the Wessex.

CM will re-iterate the rules re: Inter County expenses to the captains next year. It is not a major issue but there is some inconsistency in what is being claimed.

EC asked how the County funds are used (currently around £5K). MS replied that the main objective is the development of the game although the junior section have not used much this year. PG also pointed out that the County might have to use some of the money on various national initiatives in the future.

Adoption of the accounts proposed by HW and seconded by BB.

Election of Management Committee

MS has become aware that other counties have a more structured set-up with their committees. He suggested that Wiltshire needs to consider its management committee – what and who we need.

MS stated that he was now prepared to continue as Chairman as his circumstances have changed since indicating that he would be standing down for 12 months.

HW is to stand down as Secretary and MS will ask Mike Hyland if he will take on the post on a temporary basis until a replacement comes forward. PG offered to help guide a new Secretary if necessary. **Since the meeting, Mike Hyland has offered to take on the role on a permanent basis.

Nev Buckle has offered to look into what would be involved in the role of Development Officer and MS will speak to other counties about job descriptions. BB pointed out that Dax Mellor fulfils this role for the junior section.

Treasurer – Clive Morgan
Winter League Secretary – Derek Bray
Summer League Secretary – Neil Marshman
Referee Development – Peter Goldson
Junior Representative – Paul Faulkner

Events Co-ordinator – To be discussed at Committee

Website Co-ordinator – MS would like MH and BB to meet and review what is needed as soon as possible.

Annual Reports

Winter League

DB reported that numbers are just about OK but anything less than the present 18 teams would call for a radical restructuring – probably just two larger divisions run over the entire season. This would lead to a lot of mismatches and stagnation with meaningless mid-table matches. We will continue with English scoring to 9 this season. There appears very little interest in the end of season play-offs, which is also a problem that they have in Oxfordshire. Apart from a few teams there is also little interest in the Handicap Cup so this is likely to be scrapped in the coming season.

DB noted that he has in his possession a Wilts Player of the Season Cup that was last awarded in 2001 (to Julian Mitchell). He suggested that this award might be resurrected and possibly given to the player who has won the most matches during the season. For 2012/13 this would have been Defence Academy's Darren O'Sullivan.

Summer League

NM reported that 8 teams entered in 2012 with Marlborough the eventual winners. PAR scoring was used on a trial basis and whilst it didn't shorten the matches too much most teams have indicated that they would prefer to go back to the old system. NM finally managed to get 8 teams again for 2013 but only 5 had entered by the closing date and it is getting harder each year to get enough teams.

Juniors

BB reported that Dax Mellor will be back in the country soon so the Junior section should be back up to speed shortly afterwards. PF and BB have kept things ticking over in his absence and the next tournament is scheduled for 9th June 2013. After receiving initial funding of £500 from ESR the Junior section now has £1,200 in the bank.

Tournaments

Doubles Closed. Run by Howard Wilson @ Wessex S.C.

Winners – John Peirce & Rob Brady

Runners-up – Dave Ridgeway & Nev Buckle

Entries – 10 pairs.

2013/14

Organiser – Howard Wilson

Date – 28th September 2013

Venue - Wessex

Mens Senior Closed. Run by Dean Watkins & Brian Brock @ Mercure South Marston

Winner – Adam Giles

Runner-up – Rory Birtwistle

Premium Plate – Simon Lucas

Super Plate – Martin Sadler

Plate – Clive Morgan

Entries - 45

2013/14

Organiser - Dean Watkins / Brian Brock

Date – 17/18/19 January 2014

Venue – TBA

Mens O35 Closed. Run by Mike Hyland @ Wessex S.C.

Winner – Adam Giles
Runner-up – Simon Lucas
Plate – Mike Stannard
Entries - 20

2013/14
Organiser – Mike Hyland
Date – 01/02 March 2014
Venue – TBA

Mens O45 Closed. Run by Dean Watkins @ Marlborough
Winner – Paul Clark
Runner-up – John Peirce
Plate – Pat Carty
Entries – 14

2013/14
Organiser – Dean Watkins
Date – 19/20 April 2014
Venue – TBA

PG asked if we should be holding a County Racketball Championship and HW to ask DW about organising this, possibly in November.

Inter-Counties

Seniors
Stage 1 – Division 2 Group D - Wiltshire (35) Cornwall (16) Dorset (14)
Stage 2 – Division 2 Promotion B – Wiltshire came second to Gloucestershire - Promoted

2013/14 Captain – Paul Clark
Stage 1 – 9/10 Nov 2013
Stage 2 – 15/16 Mar 2014

Mens O35
Stage 1 – Division 2 Group B - Buckinghamshire(37) Worcestershire(18) Wiltshire (12)
Stage 2 – Division 2 Relegation B – Away at Merseyside – Not played.

2013/14 Captain – Adam Giles
Stage 1 – 19/20 Oct 2013
Stage 2 – 18/19 Jan 2014

Mens O45
Stage 1 – Division 2 Group C – Sussex(55) Wiltshire(38) Somerset(30) Cornwall(14)
Stage 2 – Division 2 Promotion B - Wiltshire(34) Sussex(22) Worcestershire (13) Promoted

2013/14 Captain – John Peirce
Stage 1 – 16/17 Nov 2013
Stage 2 – 22/23 Mar 2014

Mens O50
Stage 1 – Premier B – Middlesex(59) Avon(39) Kent(26) Wiltshire(10)
Stage 2 Premier Relegation Surrey(34) Kent(25) Wiltshire(11) Relegated

2013/14 Captain – Clive Morgan
Stage 1 – 02/03 Nov 2013
Stage 2 – 11/12 Jan 2014

RightCoach

MS is trying to centralise the coaching in Wiltshire, starting with a database of qualification details, First Aid certificates and CRB checks etc.

Any Other Business

BB reported that the Oasis lease has now been taken up by Greenwich Leisure Limited, a trust-based company and he is working with them to try and establish a centre of excellence for squash.

JP was concerned about the lack of promotion of the game in the county and feels we need more coverage in the media. It was noted that both the Swindon Advertiser and the Wiltshire Herald and Gazette will print tournament reports, match results etc. if they are sent in. It was agreed that we need to get this information out to the clubs.

PG stated that we need a clear policy on how we deal with clubs that do not pay their Affiliation Fees. This will be taken up at Committee.

PG expressed concerns about the coaching fees that are being charged at Marlborough and Devizes leisure centres. Will be looked at under the RightCoach initiative.